

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Edwin Hoefer et al
Application Number: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Title: COFFEE MACHINE WITH A CONTINUOUS FLOW
HEATER

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

DE 197 06 120 discloses the housing has a mounting accommodating the heater and switchgear, and is closed on the underside by a base. The base of the machine (1) is secured to a support, and the heater with switchgear is secured to the support and/or the base, forming with them a continuous-flow heater unit, which can be assembled outside the housing (3). Locking devices can be provided on the base and/or support, to secure them to the housing. The support can be of plastic, with a heat-accumulator plate secured to it. Holders can be provided on the base to support the plate.

DE 93 01 729 U1 discloses a flow heater, incorporating:

- 1.1 a container which is preferably heated by electric power
(1) for the medium to be heated,
- 1.2 at least one end of which is of tubular form
- 1.3 and which incorporates an open face, together with
- 1.4 a connecting piece (2, 2'), which is arranged
- 1.4.1 for the connection of a line for the medium to be heated and

- 1.4.2 for attachment to the open face of the container (1), such that
- 1.5 the connecting piece (2, 2') is directly connectable to the end of the container (1) and may be secured to the latter.

DE 23 48 336 discloses a flow heater for domestic coffee machines with a tubular heater arranged in a flow housing which incorporates an inlet and outlet nozzle, characterized in that the flow housing is formed of two shells (1, 2) with semicircular imprints (3) for the accommodation of the tubular heating element (6, 7) and the inlet and outlet nozzles (4, 5), in that one of the shells (2) incorporates a raised edge (8), and in that the two shells (1, 2), the tubular heating element (6, 7) and the inlet and outlet nozzles (4, 5) are securely held in place by the flange connection formed by the raised edge (8), with the interposition of a one-piece corded seal (9).

DE 39 03 649 discloses electric flow heaters, in which a helical, metal-cased tubular heater is embedded in a plastic jacket which forms the flow tube, show a relatively high susceptibility for overheating, caused by calcification. The overheating can in this case go so far that it results in charring of the plastic. It is therefore the object of the present invention to create a flow heater which on the one hand has the advantages of the known plastic design, in which, however, on the other hand the plastic parts of the heater are prevented from being damaged, or even destroyed, by overheating. This object is achieved according to the invention in that the helical tubular heater (1) is surrounded by a metal envelope (2) and is embedded, together with said envelope, in the plastic casing (4).

DE 298 09 279 U1 discloses a heating device for use in household appliances for the preparation of hot drinks incorporating an enclosed heating water chamber (20), into which a cold water inlet (22) discharges and from which a heating water feed line (28) projects, and a heater, characterized in that the heater is constructed in the form of a flow heater.

DE 83 35 620 U1 discloses a hose for the conveyance of fluids, including e.g. drinking water or beverages, incorporating a bendable longitudinal section of elastic material construction, characterized in that the wall of the hose (cold water line 22, hot water line 72), in its bendable longitudinal section (corrugated pipe sections 46, 74, 110) and for the

enhancement of its bending properties, incorporates corrugations (protuberances 100) which run transversely to the longitudinal axis of the hose and which extend over part of the hose circumference only.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



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July 24, 2006

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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<p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Edwin Hoefer et al
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	2004P00167WOUS
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ ~Number ⁴ ~Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 197 06 120	12/18/1997	Gerhard Steiner		
		DE 93 01 729 U1	04/01/1993	E.G.O. Elektro-Geraete Blanc u. Fischer		
		DE 23 48 336	04/10/1975	Armin Rader et al		
		DE 39 03 649	04/12/1990	Erich Hillinger		
		DE 298 09 279 U1	10/08/1998	Rowenta-Werke GmbH		
		DE 83 35 620 U1	03/07/1985	Bosch-Siemens Hausgeraete GmbH		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	2	of	2
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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 03/030696	04/17/2003	Robert F. Fanzutti et al		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		International Search Report PCT/EP2005/050361				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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